

WSMA Programs: How the Dues Dollar is Spent

The dues each individual WSMA member pays to belong to the Association underwrite a multitude of programs designed collectively to enhance the effectiveness of the profession, protect the public health and assure continued access to quality health care.

The 1981 dues of \$273 were set by the House of Delegates at the WSMA annual meeting in October. Broad program priorities are established by the Board of Trustees and refined by the Executive Committee, Finance Committee and the four Council chairmen. As a result of those deliberations, WSMA dues dollars in 1981 will be spent in the areas outlined below.

Professional Liability — \$48

This is a one time expenditure providing \$90,000 for marketing and feasibility studies for the WSMA-sponsored physician-owned professional liability insurance company. The WSMA House of Delegates will decide May 16, 1981 if the second phase \$150,000 should be expended to have the company operational by 1982. WSMA dues for 1982 will be reduced by \$48, and there is potential for all or part of the funds collected in 1981 for this purpose to be returned or credited to 1981 members.

Member Services — \$50

Member Services funds pay for the continuing medical education program at the annual meeting, WSMA accreditation of organizations and institutions presenting CME courses, sponsorship of physician teacher workshops, practice management courses, and liaison with the Board of Medical Examiners to assure fair and equitable CME requirements. Risk management data-gathering and education courses are paid for with Member Service funds, as are negotiation sessions with professional liability commercial insurance carriers, and the meetings of the professional liability claims review

panels. Recruitment of new members for both WSMA and AMA comes from Member Services allocations.

Community Services — \$15

Community Services funds support the activities of a number of WSMA committees that engage in research or advocate a position on a variety of issues affecting the public health. On their agendas are nursing home care, the Medicaid program, the Medicare program, hospice, child health, neonate safety, health education, immunization, sports medicine, and emergency medical services (and EMT training and certification, and coordination of emergency programs).

Community Services monies also pay for the work of the jail and prison health committee, liaison with the state Jail Commission, medical audits of state penal institutions, and imple-

mentation and accreditation of county jail health systems. Mental health committee research and actions are paid for out of Community Services funds, along with liaison activities with state mental institutions and community mental health organizations.

Professional Affairs — \$15

The funds allocated to Professional Affairs pay for the committee that monitors and supports the state Medical Disciplinary Board and the Personal Problems of Physicians Program. Beginning in 1981, Professional Affairs will underwrite a cooperative dialogue between the WSMA and county societies on more effective patient grievance programs.

Professional Affairs monies also are targeted at further efforts to safeguard the patient/physician relationship and the confidentiality of medical records.



Dr. Rory Laughery, right, chairman of the WSMA Jail Health Committee, and Dr. Alvin J. Thompson, middle, talked with Dr. Charles C. Strong and other Executive Committee members recently about problems and possible solutions in the King County Jail and the Walla Walla penitentiary.

Policy Development — \$65

The WSMA state legislative program is developed and implemented with Policy Development dollars. Also coming out of Policy Development funds are WSMA activities in health education, health planning, liaison work with the Health Systems Agencies, State Health Coordinating Council, State Health Planning and Development Agency, Technical Advisory Groups, and subarea councils.

Policy Development monies pay for several initiatives with the Department of Social and Health Services: reviewing vendor agreements, negotiating fees, and monitoring and suggesting changes in regulations and programs. The costs of negotiating with the Department of Labor and Industries are also borne by Policy Development, as are the activities of the medical advisory committee to the state rehabilitation program.

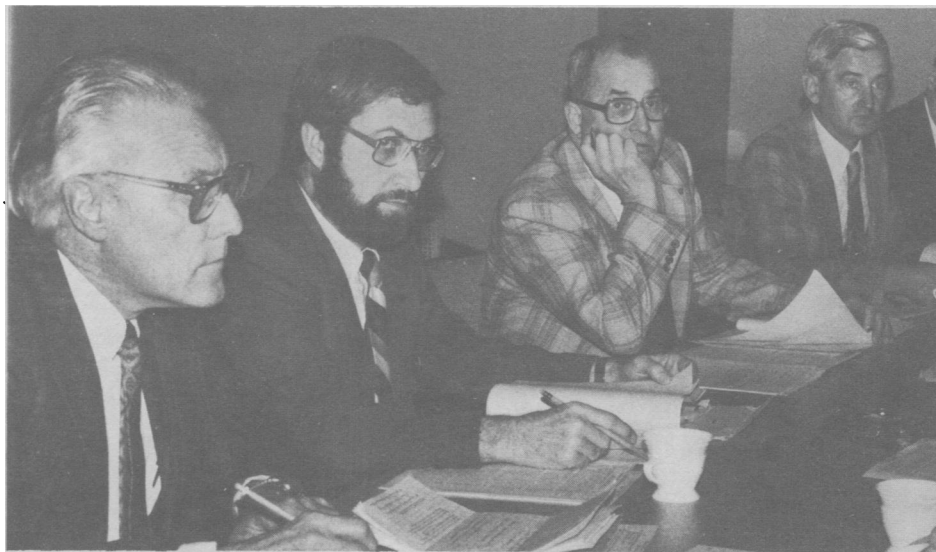
Finally, Policy Development funds underwrite the WSMA Congressional liaison program which includes monitoring and making recommendations in medical service, procedure coding, prepaid health plans and financing health care.

Reserves — \$15

At the end of 1980, the WSMA will have \$250,000 in permanent reserves, with an additional \$50,000 earmarked for 1981.

Internal Support — \$65

Internal Support money supports the activities of the policy-setting House of Delegates, the Board of Trustees and officers, including their travel and meeting expenses. It also pays for the WSMA Central Office in Seattle and the Olympia and Spokane WSMA offices as well as the paper, postage and taxes to keep the WSMA running. *WSMA Reports*, *The Medical Memo*, special leadership and specialty society mailings are paid for out of Internal Support funds. The annual WSMA leadership conference and the Interspecialty Council are funded with Internal Support dollars.



WSMA Council chairmen, from left, Dr. Arthur J. Herstad, Dr. Harold R. Clure, Dr. Samuel T. Beall and Dr. Thomas D. Mahony, help set WSMA priorities.

Directory of WSMA Services — 1981

Officers:

President: Charles C. Strong, M.D.,
Vancouver
President-Elect: Donald M. Keith, M.D.,
Seattle
Past-President: W. Maurice Lawson,
M.D., Seattle
Vice-President: Ralph A. Johnson, M.D.,
Tacoma
Secretary-Treasurer: Edmund W. Gray,
M.D., Colville
Chairman, Council on Community
Services: Samuel T. Beall, M.D.,
Vancouver
Chairman, Council on Policy Development:
Thomas D. Mahony, M.D.,
Richland
Chairman, Council on Professional
Affairs: Arthur J. Herstad, M.D.,
Bremerton
Chairman, Council on Member Services:
Harold R. Clure, M.D., Anacortes

Executive Director: (House of Delegates,
Board of Trustees, Executive Committee,
Officers, AMA)

Harlan R. Knudson, CAE, Seattle

Professional Affairs: (Medical Education,
Grievance, Ethics, Discipline, Personal
Problems of Physicians)

Richard F. Gorman, Seattle

Policy Development: (DSHS, WAMPAC,
Congress State Legislation, Labor & Industries)

Glen Hudson, Seattle

Legal:

Jeff Smith, J.D., Olympia during Legislative Session/Seattle

State Legislation:

Marie Rains, Olympia
509 East 12th, #11
Olympia, WA 98501
(206) 352-4848

Community Health Services: (Mental
Health, Rural Health, Emergency Medical
Care)

Glen Hudson, Seattle

Member Services: (Professional Liability,
Claims Review, Practice Management)

John Arveson, Seattle

Communication: (Medical Memo, Western
Journal of Medicine, Public Relations)

Jean Knights, Seattle

Statewide Community Coordinator:
(Health Systems Agencies, Health Planning,
Subarea Councils, Locations Available)

Jeanette Greenfield, Seattle

WSMA Convention/Specialty Society Services:

Marcia Wahlman, Seattle

Membership:

Dianne Utecht, Seattle ☐